



September 1st, 2005

Portland Harbor Superfund Project Stakeholders

Re: Portland Harbor Joint Source Control Strategy

Dear Portland Harbor Superfund Project Stakeholder:

On December I, 2000, the Portland Harbor section of the Willamette River was added to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL). In February 2001, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), and other governmental parties signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that provides a framework of coordination and cooperation in the management of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site to optimize federal, state, tribal, and trustee expertise and resources. Under this framework, it was agreed that the DEQ, using state cleanup authority, has lead technical and legal responsibility for controlling upland contamination which may impact the river. EPA, using federal CERCLA authorities, has lead technical and legal responsibility for addressing in-water contamination. In order to coordinate upland source control, the MOU specifies that DEQ and EPA will together develop a Joint Source Control Strategy (JSCS) that defines a process for identifying and controlling potential sources of contamination threatening the Willamette River.

DEQ and EPA recently completed the Interim Final version of the Portland Harbor JSCS. This document represents a consensus between DEQ, EPA, and our federal, state, and tribal project partners on how to identify, evaluate, and prioritize sources of contamination that are impacting, or may potentially impact the Willamette River. Screening objectives and methodologies for prioritization have been designed to be consistent with the potential in-water remedial objectives EPA has identified for the site, as well as the schedule for the delivery of the Portland Harbor remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) and Record of Decision (ROD). With the final issuance of this strategy, timely upland source control is expected and necessary so that cleanup of the river can effectively proceed, and risk of subsequent recontamination can be minimized.

DEQ and EPA invite you and other Portland Harbor Stakeholders to review and provide comments on the JSCS. The JSCS can be found on DEQ's Portland Harbor web site at:

If you would like to provide comments, please submit them no later than Monday October 3, 2005 to:

Jim Anderson, Portland Harbor Section Manager DEQ Northwest Region 2020 SW Fourth Ave, Stc 400 Portland, OR 97201 Email: anderson.jim@deq.state.or.us

All comments will be considered, however we will not formally respond to comments. DEQ and EPA will make all final decisions on the JSCS, and will issue the final JSCS shortly thereafter.

Sincerely,

Dick Pedersen,

Administrator, Northwest Region

Daniel D. Opalski

Director, Office of Environmental Cleanup